

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 1, with the following redlined paragraph:

It is necessary for the light transmission layer 101a to have a sufficiently high light transmittance with respect to a signal beam and a reference beam and substantially the same refractive index as that of the recording layer ~~102b~~ 101b in order to prevent a light beam from being reflected at the interface between itself and the recording layer 101b. As the light transmission layer 101a, a transparent substrate made of polycarbonate is employed, for example.